

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 06570

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PFOR

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S JULY 14 SPEECH ON UN

REF: STATE 170831

1. SUMMARY: REACTION OF SOAMES AND OTHER KEY COMMISSION OFFICIALS TO SECRETARY'S JULY 14 SPPEECH CONCENTRATED ON STRATEGY FOR HANDLING SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION AS MOST IMMEDIATE PROBLEM THEY STRESSED DESIRABILITY CLOSE DC COORDINATION OF STRATEGY WITHOUT REQUIRING FULLY UNIFIED POSITIONS. THEY AGREED THAT ONLY EFFECTIVE COUNTER TO INEVITABLE LONG LIST OF LDC DEMANDS WOULD BE NEW PROPOSALS FROM DC'S, ESPECIALLY IN AREA OF RAW MATERIALS POLICY, WHICH WOULD HELP FOCUS ATTENTION AWAY FROM LAUNDRY LIST AND TOWARD PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO REAL PROBLEMS. EC COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER COMMISSION PAPER JULY 22 ON GUIDELINES WITHIN WHICH EC MEMBERS WOULD PRESENT POSITIONS ON COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND EARNINGS STABILIZATION. SINCE NOTHING IN PAPER REALLY NEW, THEY HOPE US WILL COME UP WITH NEW PROPOSALS WHICH WILL MEET THIS NEED AND DISCUSS THEM IN ADVANCE WITH EC THROUGH REGULAR DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR GREENWALD SAW SOAMES, HIJZEN (WHO WILL BE EC COMMISSION REP AT SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION) AND DE MARGERIE
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(ORTOLI'S CHEF DU CABINET) ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS JULY 21 FOR

DISCUSSION OF SECRETARY'S JULY 14 SPEECH. AMBASSADOR
COVERED GENERAL POINTS IN REFTEL. COMMISSION OFFICIALS'
REACTIONS CAN BE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

3. THERE WAS AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO SECRETARY'S THESIS
THAT LDC EFFORTS TO RADICALIZE UN SYSTEM MAKE IT INCREASINGLY
DIFFICULT TO USE UN EFFECTIVELY TO SEEK SOLUTIONS TO COMMON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. SOAMES HAS ALREADY MADE PUBLIC STATEMENT
ALONG SIMILAR LINES(SEE EC BRUSSELS 06081 AND LONDON 10267).
HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, HUIZEN SAID HE THOUGHT EC
WOULD NOT BE INCLINED TO ABANDON EFFORTS AT DIALOGUE IN UN
ON ECONOMIC ISSUES EVEN IF CLIMATE ON POLITICAL SIDE OF THE
HOUSE GETS WORSE. HE WOULD PREFER TO DISTINGUISH STRATEGY
USED TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FROM THOSE WHICH EC
MEMBER STATES ADPT ON POLITICAL ISSUES SUCH AS ISRAEL.
HOWEVER, ALL OFFICIALS STRONGLY ENDORSED NEED FOR EFFECTIVE
COORDINATION AMONG DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ON STRATEGY FOR
HANDLING LDC DEMANDS, WHILE MAINTAINING ENOUGH LATITUDE
AMONG DC'S FOR EXPRESSING DIFFERENT VIEWS ABOUT SPECIFIC
ISSUES AT SEVENTH SS IF THEY ARE SO INCLINED.

4. ON SPECIAL SESSION ITSELF, HUIZEN REPORTED THAT EC
COUNCIL (FOREIGN MINISTERS) AT ITS JULY 22 MEETING WILL
CONSIDER COMMISSION PAPER WHICH PROPOSES GENERAL GUIDELINES
FOR POSITIONS WHICH COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATES WOULD TAKE
ON COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND EARNINGS STABILIZATION. HE
DESCRIBED PAPER AS ESSENTIALLY A SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMIS-
SION COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL OVER PAST SEVERAL MONTHS ON
HOW TO HANDLE COMMODITY POLICY. (SEE EC BRUSSELS 06290
ON JULY 10 AND REFERENCES THEREIN.)

5. DE MARGERIE REFERRED TO AGREEMENT REACHED AMONG HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT AT LAST WEEK'S EUROPEAN COUNCIL SESSION ACCORDING
TO WHICH COMMUNITY WOULD CONTINUE WORK BOTH ON PROPOSALS TO
STABILIZE COMMODITY MARKETS AND ON SCHEMES TO STABILIZE
EARNINGS FROM COMMODITY EXPORTS. HOWEVER, BOTH HE AND
HUIZEN AGREED THAT NUMBER OF COMMODITIES TO WHICH PRICE
STABILIZATION ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT APPLY WAS VERY LIMITED
("LESS THAN FIVE"). CONSEQUENTLY, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER,
EARNINGS STABILIZATION SCHEMES ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE
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AND WIDELY USABLE FOR LDC'S THAN AGREEMENTS ON SPECIFIC
COMMODITIES. IT IS ALSO FOR THIS REASON THAT COMMISSION
OFFICIALS WANT TO DEEP DISCUSSION OF EARNINGS STABILIZATION
IN GENERAL CONTEXT OF COMMODITY POLICY RATHER THAN AID OR
RESOURCE TRANSFER.

6. COMMISSION OFFICIALS ADMITTED THAT EC WOULD NOT HAVE
ANYTHING REALLY NEW TO PROPOSE AT SPECIAL SESSION IN THESE

AREAS. HOWEVER, THEY STRESSED THAT NEW INITIATIVES FROM DC'S IN AREA OF RAW MATERIALS WOULD BE ONLY EFFECTIVE WAY TO DEAL BOTH WITH REAL LDC PROBLEMS AND THE POLITICAL PROBLEM DC'S FACE IN UN OF ALWAYS HAVING TO REACT, USUALLY NEGATIVELY AND UNCOORDINATEDLY, TO INEVITABLE LONG LIST OF LDC DEMANDS. THEY THEREFORE HOPED THAT, AS NOTED REFTEL, US WOULD COME FORWARD WITH NEW PROPOSALS TO BE PRESENTED AT SPECIAL SESSION AND URGED THAT WE USE REGULAR DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO DISCUSS THEM IN ADVANCE WITH EC. HIJZEN NOTED NO MORE MULTILATERAL COORDINATION MEETINGS UNDER OECD UMBRELLA SCHEDULED BETWEEN NOW AND OPEING OF SPECIAL SESSION BUT SAID INFORMAL AGREEMENT REACHED AT LAST MEETING OF SCSS THAT HE WOULD MEETI WITH US REP AND "SOME OTHERS" AT END FIRST WEEK OF SESSION TO COORDINATE DC STRATEGY FOR NEW YORK.

7. SUBSEQUENT TO PREPARATION OF THIS MESSAGE, WE OBTAINED A COPY OF THE EC COMMISSION PAPER FOR THE COUNCIL (PARA 4 ABOVE) AND ARE REPORTING BY SEPTTEL. GREENWALD

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